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	SENATE S. No. 2052	BECK VED IN :

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Academic achievement is very important in obtaining employment, a promotion or higher compensation in employment, or admission to a prestigious institution. It is likewise important when presented in connection with any profession or occupation. It is imperative, therefore, that such academic achievement be obtained only through the efforts of the person claiming it as his or her own, and not the work of people he or she just paid to write his or her dissertations, theses, term papers, essays, reports or any other assignment.

Hence, this bill seeks to make it unlawful for any person to sell, offer to sell, purchase or offer to purchase any material either written or provided through electronic media which will be submitted by a student as his or her own work to any university, college, academy, school or other educational institution, or to a course, seminar or degree program held by such institution.

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S.	$\overset{\text{SENATE}}{\underset{No.}{2052}}$	HECHVE	n av : _ f
Introduced by Se	nator Miriam Defens	sor Santiago	

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL SALE AND PURCHASE OF DISSERTATIONS, THESES, TERM PAPERS, ESSAYS, REPORTS, OR ANY OTHER ASSIGNMENT

4 Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in 5 Congress assembled:

6 SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "Academic Honesty Act of 2008."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote the general welfare of the people. Pursuant to this policy, this Act makes it unlawful to sell, offer to sell, purchase or offer to purchase dissertations, theses, term papers, essays, reports or any other assignment which will be submitted by a student as his or her own work to any university, college, academy, school or other educational institution, or to a course, seminar or degree program held by such institution.

13 SECTION 3. Prohibition on Unlawful Sale of Dissertations, Theses and Term Papers. -14 No person shall, for financial consideration, or the promise of financial consideration, prepare, 15 offer to prepare, cause to be prepared, sell or offer for sale to any person any material either 16 written or provided through electronic media which the seller knows, is informed or has reason 17 to believe is intended for submission by a student as his or her own dissertation, thesis, term 18 paper, essay, report or other assignment, as a requirement of any university, college, academy, 19 school or other educational institution, or of any course, seminar or degree program held by such 20 institution.

SECTION 4. Prohibition on Unlawful Purchase of Dissertations, Theses and Term
 Papers. – It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to purchase, or to offer to purchase, from

any person any material either written or provided through electronic media which the buyer
intends to submit as his or her dissertation, thesis, term paper, essay, report or other assignment
as a requirement of any university, college, academy, school or other educational institution, or
of any course, seminar or degree program held by such institution.

5 SECTION 5. *Penalties.* – Any person found guilty of violating the preceding Section 6 shall be punished by a penalty of imprisonment of *arresto menor*, or a fine of not more than Ten 7 Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court, taking into consideration all 8 attending circumstances.

9 SECTION 6. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or 10 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain 11 valid and subsisting.

12 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive 13 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent 14 with the provisions of this act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

15 SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 16 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

17 Approved,

/rgs